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MONDAY, APRIL 8, 1907.

A Successful Mediation.

What Chairman Knapp, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, regards as a "distinct triumph for government mediation" has been won by the settlement of the differences between forty or more Western railroads and certain of their employes as to wages and hours of labor. A threatened strike, which would have been more disastrous to railway finances and more unsettling to general business conditions than hostile legislation, has thus been happily averted.

It is worth while to inquire into the method by which this settlement was effected, as it is the first instance of an adjustment of differences between common carriers and their employes under an act of Congress which has been on the statute books since 1898. That act provides that the mediation of the Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Commissioner of Labor may be invoked by either party, whereupon it shall be the duty of those officials to put themselves in communication with the parties to the controversy, to use their best efforts, by mediation and conciliation, to amicably settle the dispute, and, if unsuccessful, to endeavor to bring about arbitration in the manner prescribed by law. Such arbitration, however, is wholly voluntary, as the mediators have no more power to bring about arbitration than they have to compel a settlement by mutual agreement. In the present instance the negotiations succeeded before the arbitration stage was reached, the railway employes preferring to yield one or two minor points rather than submit their case to arbitration.

The agreement finally reached is a compromise arrived at by the familiar method of splitting the difference. The railway managers had offered their employes a certain advance in wages, which was not all that the men wanted. In addition to a higher wage scale than was offered, the men asked for a nine-hour day for some classes of trainmen and a ten-hour day for others. The terms of settlement provide for a wage scale somewhere between that proposed by the railroads and that asked for by the men, and the request for a nine-hour day was waived by the employes, though men on work trains get a ten-hour day with no reduction in wages. The agreement will add $6,000,000 to the yearly pay rolls of the railway companies, or about $300,000 more than was originally contemplated in the offer made to their employes.

But would the task of mediation have been so easy if the railroads had been in a financial condition which would not have permitted the voluntary concession of a considerable advance in wages? Would it have been successful, in other words, if the terms of agreement proposed by the mediators had not been favorable to the employes, as well as within the financial competence of the employers? The efficacy of government mediation will not be severely tested until the conditions are quite otherwise than those presented to the mediators at Chicago. Yet we would not minimize the value of their mediatory efforts, for they brought disagreeing elements together on a compromise which the controversialists themselves could not reach unaided. In that sense, the result is, as Chairman Knapp said, a triumph for government mediation.

Mayor Weaver, of Philadelphia, says: "I have no regrets upon retiring." That makes it unanimous.

The Fault of the Weather.

To Prof. Henry J. Cox, head of the Chicago weather bureau, and Dr. Harold N. Moyer, alienist, of that city, the thanks of the entire country are due for a most interesting discovery. Crime has been unusually rampant in the city by the unsalted sea recently, and the two men named—eminent scientists, the veracious one who tells of their exploit calls them—have conducted investigations which enable them to declare that the excess number of murders, suicides, and other transgressions has resulted from extraordinary weather conditions.

We go so far as to assert that Messrs. Cox and Moyer deserve the gratitude of the public as a whole, because we believe, after careful consideration, that their explanation of the egregious reign of lawlessness in the metropolis of the Middle West eclaircizes some other curious phenomena which have startled, not to say shocked, the newspaper readers of this land of the free for several days.

Washington, it is well to remember, has experienced most uncommon weather recently. Long before we even thought her on the way, it seemed that Spring had come. Golfers flocked to the links, the proprietors of livery stables in the country round about the Capital were called on to meet unusual demands Sunday afternoons, and Connecticut avenue swarmed with femininity in porous raiment, and mollycoddlish masculinity. The young man's fancy lightly turned to thoughts of love, and many foolish ones discarded their flannels. The newspapers printed pictures and poems appropriate to the season—"Good-by, Winter! Welcome, Spring!" &c. Despite the obvious anachronism, it seemed that the anteroom to the good old summertime actually had been reached.

And then, suddenly, Washington had another think coming. Winter poked gentle Spring squarely on her pretty, uptilted nose, and she fled. The mercury went down so rapidly as nearly to break the bottom of the tube. The snows descended, the winds howled, and the buds and the crocuses realized that they had been impulsive and precipitate.

However, all this is but a trite recital of well-known facts. Our only purpose in referring at this time to the disgraceful liaison between the seasons is to invite attention to the far-reaching results such conduct naturally would have if the theory of the Chicago scientists be accepted.

"The cold spell, following the warm weather, is responsible for a feeling of great unrest and nervousness," says Prof. Cox; while Dr. Moyer declares that the change in the weather "causes brainstorms to burst."

We believe that these statements clear up certain singular developments which have puzzled many in the recent past, and we repeat, therefore, that Messrs. Cox and Moyer are entitled to the thanks of the entire country.

We shudder to think of Mr. Roosevelt's political future if he finally succeeds in alienating the entire liar vote of the country.

One Contribution Realized On.

Of timely interest, in view of the present discussion of the relations of corporation campaign contributions to party policy, is an address made before the Boston City Club by Henry M. Whitney, whose veracity, it will be remembered, was once called in question by President Roosevelt. Mr. Whitney, discussing the enormous profits which the steel trust was enabled to make by reason of the protective tariff, alluded to the defeat of the Lovering drawback bill, which was intended to admit certain foreign materials free of duty if used for manufactures destined for the export trade. Mr. Lovering attributed the defeat of his bill to "certain industrial combinations of great influence," which secretly used their power to defeat tariff legislation.

Mr. Whitney, in his address, declared that he had reasons for believing that Mr. Lovering referred to "a letter written by one of the vice presidents of the United States Steel Company to Mr. Dalzell, of the Ways and Means Committee, advising him that it was not in the interest of the steel company that the drawback bill should pass, and directing him to stop any further discussion of the bill." Mr. Whitney further asserted that in consequence of this letter the bill did not pass.

In this instance, if the facts are as stated by Mr. Whitney, one corporation got value received for its campaign contribution. Still, it must be borne in mind that Mr. Whitney, by White House decree, became one of the earliest members of that growing organization, the Ananias Club.

Probably Secretary Root got his famous idea about constructive recesses from noting the pauses between South American revolutions.

Mr. Richard Mansfield.

The continued and long-drawn-out illness of Mr. Richard Mansfield, perhaps the most eminent actor on the American stage to-day, is very much to be regretted. Especially are the words of his physician discouraging, coupled as they are with the statement that Mr. Mansfield must not return to the stage at all, if he expects to enjoy a long lease of life.

"He is little more than one great bundle of nerves," said the doctor. "He is said to be strong, muscular, but most of that physical strength was built on nerves. The wonder is that he did not collapse months earlier this season."

Mr. Mansfield is not the greatest actor this country ever knew. He is not an artist capable of expressing any great depth of feeling. But in some of his work, especially as Beau Brummel and Baron Chevrial, he is not approached by any contemporary artist.

It is to be hoped that his condition is not such as his physicians fear. Further, it is to be hoped that he will give himself exclusively and unreservedly to the business of getting well, even though it involve a temporary retirement. The American stage cannot spare Mansfield. There is no one in sight to fill his unique sphere. His complete recovery would give the American people the greatest pleasure.

Some one is forever poking fun at the women because of their predilection to talk, but we hear a great deal more chatter from favorite sons than favorite daughters.

If Not a Third Term, the Senate?

Collier's Weekly is the last publication to become excited over the disposition to be made of President Roosevelt after 1909. It only redeems itself by admitting that the question would be a conversational bromide "if it were not so interesting." Speaking for itself, it suggests—"merely as one possibility," it is careful to explain—that he be sent to the Senate from New York. And with a view to ascertaining how the present Senators would like to have him a member of their club, the Weekly submitted the query to all of them and asked for replies.

"A good many of them didn't care to express an opinion, for perfectly good reasons," the Weekly tells us, and then proceeds to print the answers received from the ten whose answers "seemed most important and interesting." The ten are Messrs. Hopkins, Warren, Newlands, Perkins, Clapp, McCumber, Rayner, Heyburn, Tillman, and Nelson.

Three of the ten are Democrats, and, naturally, their statements will attract most attention. Here is Mr. Tillman's comment:

"It would be presumptuous in me to advise the people of New York as to what they ought to do or what kind of a man they ought to send to represent them in the Senate. If President Roosevelt, after his retirement from the White House, should be elected Senator, it would be a revelation to him as to what kind of a body the Senate is, and also to the country as to what kind of a man he is."

Mr. Rayner's reply is distinctly complimentary to the President. "In my judgment," says the Marylander, "he would make a most valuable member of the Senate. I know of no one who could be of greater service to the country. Of course, I am not speaking about the political situation in reference to his case, but solely of his great ability and wonderful resources."

Mr. Newlands' view is similar. "If the Republican party continues in power, it is essential that it should be democratized," he writes. "Mr. Roosevelt is a valuable factor in this work, and I believe his service in the Senate would be important in rescuing it from its inertia and conservatism, so protective of existing abuses."

Without exception, the Republican Senators express the opinion that the President should be sent to the Senate when he leaves the White House. Some of them are unnecessarily demonstrative, for reasons which, doubtless, are quite obvious to persons acquainted with the political situation.

One man, Senator Nelson, thinks it would "be advisable for the people to have President Roosevelt in the Senate after the expiration of his term, provided he cannot be President for another term." Then he goes on to assert that among the masses of the people, "not only the Republicans, but to a large extent the Democrats, there is a belief that President Roosevelt ought to have another term in order to carry out the reforms which he has initiated and so ably pressed." "In short," declares the senior Senator from Minnesota, after telling of sentiment as he found it during a five-weeks' stumping tour in his State last autumn, "the people seem to have their minds fixed on no other Presidential candidate than Mr. Roosevelt."

All this, it occurs to us, is more or less significant. The sentiment in favor of President Roosevelt succeeding himself is undeniably strong.

Several newspapers are seeking to obtain the country's idea as to what Mr. Roosevelt shall do when he goes out of the White House. The worry now in some quarters is not what he will do when he gets out, but what he is going to do while he is in.

The Birmingham Age-Herald thinks it will be Taft, of Ohio, because his figure resembles an "O." If you are a believer in such signs, what's the matter with it being Fairbanks, of Indiana, because his figure resembles an "I?"

"Where are all the dudes of yesteryear?" asks the New York World. Have not the least idea. But why on earth should any one want to know?

"Put not your trust in princes," said Solomon. A safe deposit box is better these parlous times.

A few words from Uncle Mark Twain would come in fine just now.

Mr. Delmas' theory of defense seems to be that Thaw was foolish to get into the trouble when he did, but is smart enough to get out of it now.

The Houston Post will also claim, perhaps, that Santa Claus never visits Texas in anything less than a sixty-horsepower automobile.

Evidently the Czar was not cut out for a lid sitter!

There are too many lean and hungry Cassiuses standing around.

The weather department reports this the coldest April in the history of the department. Mr. Harriman has probably noticed it.

The Republican elephant needs a large dose of soothing syrup.

There are 190 clocks in the Pennsylvania State capitol. Time being money, the grafters probably intended the clocks to represent the coin that got into their pockets rather than the building.

"After the Thaw trial, what?" asks an excited contemporary. Why bother with dim and distant problems?

Senator Penrose waves aside the "in," also the "vino," likewise the "veritas."

Now, if some one had discovered a dark, mysterious, and awesome plot against the administration out Californiaward, it would not have set the country to hawhawing.

A Trenton (N. J.) woman says she is making 75 cents a week church money by shaving her husband. This is likely to result in an early compromise, much to the benefit of the church.

Another Ohio defaulting bank cashier has been given the limit of the law. Ohio's idea in this matter ought to spread.

It was a great story, and stirred up the animals in fine fashion. Still, one cannot escape the thought that the stenographer in the case was pretty much of a sneak.

The Russian terrorists are developing strange habits. The last bomb thrown hit the man it was intended for, blew him to small scraps, and did not kill or maim a single innocent bystander.

Ananias Club motto: "Be sure you're wrong, then go ahead!"

The Pittsburg Dispatch says that the immortal twenty-eight are not held up as models of honesty, but simply as "distinguished sons." Have it your way. We merely sought to be polite as possible about it.

The Indianapolis Sun thinks that so far as the dispatch, "Mr. Taft went into a big hole," is concerned, the "big" was superfluous. Still, it might have added to the message to let it be known that the hole was not the one prepared for the Secretary by Senator Foraker.

Gov. Swettenham: "My letter to Admiral Davis was simply a joke." Of course; so the entire universe noted long ago.

Beneficiaries of the Tariff.

From the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

The aggregate revenue accruing to the government last year from impost duties was a little upward of $300,000,000; the additional profits which the tariff placed into the pockets of the protected producers, over and above what they would have received had their products not received prohibitive protection, amounted, at a conservative estimate, to $1,000,000,000. That is, for every dollar which the tariff placed in the public Treasury it put five into the pockets of the men whose already swollen fortunes, Mr. Roosevelt tells us, constitute a menace to the country and the nation. What more convincing evidence than that contained in these figures is needed to demonstrate the fact that our tariff policy is not in the interest of the nation at large, but in that of a few protected interests?

Justice Holmes' Democracy.

From the Boston Journal.

Washington high official life appears to be scandalized because Justice Holmes, instead of keeping his own carriage, rides in plebeian street cars. It ought to be remembered that democracy has been a Holmes trait for several generations, and that even a revered member of the highest court in the world is not exempt from heredity.

A Hopeful Southern View.

From the Chattanooga Times.

It begins to look as though the grand old party were at last split hopelessly, and that should give hope to the American people that they are about again to come into their own.

A Query from the West.

From the Milwaukee Sentinel.

By the way, what politician is truly and honestly in favor of the contributionless campaign?

APRIL.

April wept so sorely
Robin's heart was stirred,
"I must try to comfort
By a soothing word."

Cleared his throat and told her—
Robin full of cheer—
"Don't be tearful, darling,
I am surely here."

How he sings unto her,
Song to melt the snow,
And the brooks give answer
Singing as they go.

Oh the fickle creature!
Who could hope to trace
April's moods?—the changeling
Laughed in Robin's face.

—Nelly Hart Woodworth, in the Boston Transcript.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

THE TIPSTER.

The day is o'er, the races done. You meet him with a grin.
You murmur: "How did Slowpoke run, the nag you said would win?"
Whereat he smiles a feeble smile; his wheels begin to buzz.
And he declares: "Old fellow, I'll just tell you how it wuz."

And thus you get it every day. He goes abroad at dawn,
Filled up about a horse to play and put your money on.
But should you hand him out a "V," as oft a fellow does,
He'll meet you shortly after tea and tell you "how it wuz."

Scenery.

"I've just been West."

"They tell me the scenery in that section is on a gigantic scale."

"It is. I saw whisky signs twenty-four feet high."

The Excitement Plan.

"The payments ain't so hard."

"What terms?"

"A dollar down and a dollar whenever the collector ketches me."

The Suburbanites.

They're ready now to do or die!
They all declare
That this shall be their battle cry:
"No strap, no fare!"

He Argues.

"My dear, when angry, you lapse into the vernacular of your forefathers."

"Vat of dot, John Wiggins?"

"I don't care for a dialecture."

As to an Author.

"They say he's gone from bad to worse."

"Abandoned prose and took up verse?"

A Band of Hope.

"Speaking of the Band of Hope, Molly."

"Yes?"

"Grace has an engagement ring!"

"JUST FROM GEORGIA."

From the Atlanta Constitution.

Half a Mile from Town.

Mockin'birds a-singin'—
Blossoms rainin' down.
Cattle-bells in drowsy dells
Half a mile from town.

List'nin' to the buzzin'
Of the bees in brown,
Robbin' flowers in sunny hours
Half a mile from town.

Oh, the city's crosses!
Oh, the country's crown!
Life is light: To Grief, goodnight,
Half a mile from town!

A Harmless Citizen.

I.

His business, it is harmless:
He to the woods belongs,
Kills rattlers for their rattles—
Sells mockin'birds for songs.

II.

In the winter time—a hunter,
Game to his lair is led;
He don't ask any millionaire
Odds for his daily bread.

III.

The fields won't let him famish—
The woods afford his meat;
The bees fill full for him the hives
Drippin' with honey sweet!

IV.

And what's the odds? the rich folks
Watch stocks that rise and fall,
But he is free as air, and he
Is richer than them all!

He Missed It There.

This is the way one of the brethren of the settlement lost his reputation:

"He wuz all that you wanted to admire,
Fer Trouble never made him jump,
'Till he hurled in an' sot hisself on fire
Whippin' the devil roun' the stump!"

At the Dime Museum.

"You advertised for a 'contented man'?"

"I did. Are you one?"

"I sure am!"

"Then, what the devil do you want to hire out for?"

Brother Dickey's Texts.

I'm a-thinkin' dat ef I has wings in glory dey may want ter fly me w'en I wants ter rest.

Hit's gittin' ter be a curious country what we livin' in. Ef you feels happy 'nuff ter holler halleluja on de highway, please God, dey'll lock you up fer 'sturbin' de peace.

You kin git a song out er a wood-saw, but lots er us would go widout music ef we had ter saw wood fer it.

GHOST OR SPECTER?

Administration Paper Seeks News of Conspiracy.

From the Philadelphia Press.

Now, was there any dinner, anyway? If there was a dinner, did anybody say any thing? Did the revelation of a conspiracy against the President and his policies come from a ghost? Did the ghost appear the next day to a specter and lift the curtain by daylight without the walnuts and the wine? Did the specter go to the White House and whisper to the President? Did the President know the specter and did the specter know the ghost?

In short, were all the correspondents seized with a sudden epidemic of madness? Or was the White House the victim of a strange and mysterious delusion?

Cost of Living at the Capital.

From the El Paso (Tex.) Herald.

Senators and Members of Congress are rebelling against the cost of living in Washington. Elaborate entertaining was inaugurated during the Cleveland administration, and the power of millions was felt and set the pace. Thirty thousand dollars a year is considered a very modest outlay for the maintenance of a family of high-flyers in the National Capital.

In After Years.

From the Chicago News.

"They say," remarked Mrs. Biffkins, "that love is blind."

"Of course it is," growled her husband.

"How do you know?" queried Mrs. B.

"Well, if it wasn't," answered the disgruntled freight payer of the combine, "you would probably be an old maid with corkscrew curls at the present writing."

Deceived by a Technicality.

From the Boston Journal.

Those wandering Williams who are flocking to St. Louis at the news that all the breweries of the city are now open, will have only sorrow for their pains when they learn that a mere industrial technicality has deceived them.

Parker and Vindication.

From the Indianapolis News.

Meantime, too, the Hon. Alton B. Parker hardly knows what to do with all the vindication that is coming his way.

From the Rochester Herald.

Judge Parker may be excused for thinking that he stands vindicated.

Older Than the Old Country.

From the Salt Lake Tribune.

If American millionaires continue to bring ancient collections over here, this country will soon be older than the old country.

MEN AND THINGS.

Praise for Cortelyou.

Now that the financial flurry in New York has subsided the friends of the Secretary of the Treasury are greatly pleased with the record which he has established for meeting such an emergency as confronted him at the outset of his administration. Since the days of Alexander Hamilton, the first Secretary of the Treasury, it is doubtful, they say, whether there has been a Cabinet officer in charge of this portfolio who has a better or a more thorough knowledge of the finances of this country than George Bruce Cortelyou. New York has never had a more capable representative at the council table of the President. It is only natural that Mr. Cortelyou should be well grounded in all that pertains to financial operations. His grandfather, Peter Crollius Cortelyou, in addition to a partnership with George Bruce in the type foundry business in New York City, was a director in several banks. He took a pleasure in instilling ideas pertaining to finance in the receptive mind of his grandson, who is now at the head of the United States Treasury.

From boyhood Secretary Cortelyou evinced an aptitude for financial problems which he invariably solved successfully, and to-day no one in this country knows the New York and Washington financial condition and environment better than himself. It was this knowledge which enabled him to meet the recent crisis which made his first month in the Treasury Department one of the most strenuous of his busy career. It was fortunate for the country that Mr. Cortelyou was so thoroughly informed on national and local conditions, for he was thereby enabled to bring common sense and financial training to confront a threatening situation.

Everybody and every interest believed and felt that it was a safe, sure man at the helm, and results justified their expectations. It was the training in early life received from his conservative, practical grandfather which enabled him in such an ordeal as he has just passed through to steer clear of the shoals of adversity and panic.

To his qualification as a diplomat and organizer must now be added that of a practical, successful financier. He is justly proud of his New York connections and training, and is never better pleased than when he is reminded that the foundation of his career in public life was laid in the public schools of the city where he passed his boyhood days.

At Arlington Friday.

The President will speak at the Arlington National Cemetery Friday of this week, the occasion being the laying of the corner-stone of the monument to be erected to perpetuate the heroic deeds of his Rough Riders. Much speculation is being indulged as to whether or not Mr. Roosevelt will give expression to any of the thoughts in his mind pertaining to recent events connected with the last campaign and the next. It is stated upon high authority that the Chief Magistrate will confine his remarks wholly to the thoughts inspired by the occasion, and that he will make no reference whatever to themes not directly pertaining to the soldier, and particularly to the character and achievements of his beloved Rough Riders. It is furthermore stated that whatever he may have to say about recent political occurrences will be reserved for his speech at the Jamestown Exposition. It is expected that his appearance at Arlington next Friday will attract an immense crowd of people from all parts of the country.

Was Pierce's Secretary.

Sidney Webster, the recipient of E. H. Harriman's two-year-old letter, publication of which last week created such a hullabaloo, was the private secretary of President Franklin Pierce 'way back in the '50's. Mr. Webster had studied law under the great New Hampshire Democrat, and when Gen. Pierce was called to the Presidency he brought the young lawyer along to Washington as his private secretary. Stuyvesant Fish's father, Hamilton Fish, afterward Grant's Secretary of State, was then a Senator from New York, and a few years after, when Mr. Webster had opened a law office in New York, where he has ever since resided, he married Hamilton Fish's eldest daughter. Curiously enough, he was the mentor for both his brother-in-law, Stuyvesant Fish, and E. H. Harriman, and was directly instrumental in making them members of the board of directors of the Illinois Central Railroad, from the presidency of which Mr. Harriman recently ousted Mr. Fish. Although still a stanch Democrat of the old school, Mr. Webster has taken no active part in politics for many years. He is descended directly from the stock that produced the great Daniel.

Hemenway Declined.

A story comes from Indiana that is quite characteristic of that State's junior Senator, the Hon. James Alexander Hemenway, than whom there is no more modest and diffident statesman in the country. Among his admirers is a large manufacturer of cigars at Indianapolis, who thought to compliment the Senator by getting out a new brand of cigars and naming it the "Jim Hemenway." The manufacturer informed the Senator by letter of the delicate compliment in store and asked him to send on his latest photograph, which he desired to have lithographed and placed upon the lid of each box. At this request the Hoosier statesman balked. Although assured that the new brand of cigars would be excellent, he could not see why his name and counterfeit presentment should be converted to the base uses of commerce. It is not known that he put the matter just in this way to his admirer, but it is known that up to date the cigar man has not received the photograph requested, and moreover that he has received a gentle intimation that the Senator is not particularly anxious to have thrust upon himself new honors of the kind indicated.

Cox and Taft's Brother.

The news from Cincinnati stating that Hamilton County can be relied upon to take the Taft end of the fight between the Secretary of War and Senator Foraker is interpreted in Washington as signifying that in spite of the knock-out blow delivered to the Cox machine by Judge Taft in the Ohio campaign two years ago, the old boss' forces in Cincinnati are being lined up for the Secretary. For years the Secretary's brother, Charles P. Taft, fought the Cox crowd violently through his newspaper, but latterly the editor and the boss have been on good terms and have worked harmoniously together in State and local politics. Although Boss Cox announced his retirement from politics after the crushing defeat of his machine in 1905, it is known that he still has control through loyal lieutenants of the organization of which for a generation he was the master, and which, under present auspices, is more powerful than ever in Cincinnati affairs. It is said the machine now has ramifications all through the State, so that the situation in Hamilton County may have an important bearing upon the contest between Senator Foraker and the War Secretary.

Becoming Excited.

From the Houston Post.

These "most beautiful girl contests" have reached the stage where the New York servant girls are becoming excited.

ADVICE TO WASHINGTON.

Texas Paper Says Capital Should Not Attempt Commercialism.

From the Houston Post.

The city of Washington, owned in part by the more than 80,000,000 people of the republic, is in more or less ferment owing to conflicts of opinion relative to its municipal government. There is apparently much dissatisfaction among the citizens for various causes, and it has long existed. There is a commercial element desiring the transformation of Washington into a great commercial city; a political element desiring the restoration of the elective form of government; and a discontented element, satisfied with the system, but dissatisfied with the manner in which Congress carries out its pact with the District of Columbia.

Outsiders, as a rule, will not entertain much sympathy for those who kick. In the first place, it is under the present form of government that Washington has become the most beautiful city of the country. It does not accord with American ideals, exactly, to deprive 300,000 people, such as the inhabitants of the District, of the right of self-government, but the restoration of the suffrage would fill Washington with corrupt politics and racial disturbance. * * *

Again, the commission system which Washington enjoys is a form of concentrated responsibility that makes for good government. These commissioners are appointed by the President, and there will never be any danger of a President turning the city over to a band of political cutthroats and grafters. Those who complain of it simply do not understand how happily they are situated.

The complaint that "the city's development as a place of beauty is proceeding without the best effective observation of a general plan and without effective restrictions against inartistic adornment," is largely true, but this involves no serious or permanent injury. In good time, some great plan will be evolved and accepted by Congress, and this one problem will be satisfactorily solved. No one could reasonably expect the country to make Washington a perfect city within a few years or within a generation. It may require a century or two to do so, but each generation will do its share.

So far as the commercial ambitions of the city are concerned, all outsiders will protest. It is impractical to make Washington a great commercial city. Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and—we say it seriously—Alexandria will never permit it. There is absolutely no field for Washington. Certainly none to the north and the South has long ago given up any notion of becoming tributary to Washington. Richmond, Norfolk, Atlanta, Memphis, Louisville will never permit Washington to get into the only territory into which her business men could hope to go.

As the political capital of the nation, Washington should cultivate ideals nobler than commercialism. Education, science, and art should center there, not packeries, foundries, and distilleries. Even the water power of the Potomac, which has excited the cupidity of avaricious souls, should not be disturbed. The beauty of its historic shores should never be violated. As the city reflects in the coming years the expanding greatness of the country, the District's area and the adjacent hills of Virginia and Maryland will all be needed to typify all the noblest ideals of our civilization.

If Washington will only be patient, if the poor government clerks will work hard and hope on and keep away from Benning, and if the city's newspapers will hold Congress to its duty, everything will come out all right. But Washington, as it values its life, must eschew politics and commercialism.

BALTIMORE'S AMBITION.

Good Wishes for Exposition Project Come from Philadelphia.

From the Philadelphia Press.

Baltimore announces an exposition for 1914 to celebrate the centennial of "The Star-Spangled Banner." Something of the kind was bound to come. Baltimore is the only one of the large cities that has never had an international exhibition, but sooner or later it was certain to catch the fever. It would be a good thing if there were a little more patience in these matters and a little longer time between expositions, but when a city with any kind of enterprise once gets the exposition feeling nothing can hold it. Baltimore promises a $10,000,000 affair, which is a pretty big undertaking, even if the national government should throw in a large part of it, as it will be asked to do without doubt. The only exposition that ever got through without a government contribution was the big Centennial show in this city in 1876. But help or no help we shall wish Baltimore good luck. It is an enterprising and solid town that will be certain to carry through with brilliant success anything it undertakes.

RESULT OF TWO-CENT FARES.

Share Prices Rise in Pennsylvania When Bill Is Signed.

From the Philadelphia Press.

The shares of every railroad affected by the 2-cent-a-mile passenger fare law rose Saturday, the day after the act was signed.

It is pretty clear that those who buy and sell these shares and those who own them do not believe that 2 cents a mile will be either ruinous or without profit. The rate has come here and is coming over the country without causing apprehension or arousing alarm in the stock market.

Whether the reduction stands or not is for the courts to decide, but the public of shareholders accepts it, thus far, without anxiety.

Color Problem in Washington.

From the Omaha Bee.

The problem is a troublesome one, with small promise of solution so far as government employment is concerned. The government is pledged by constitutional amendments to recognize no race or color distinctions in American citizenship or rights, and so long as the negro can pass the civil service examinations the door of Federal employment is open to him. Practical demonstration of this fact may have the effect of curing some of the young men and women of the country of their deluded notion that a government clerkship is the most select of all positions open to those seeking clerical employment.

A Pennsylvania View of Penrose.

From the Connellsville (Pa.) Courier.

Penrose denies that he is a Philistine and declares he has always been for Roosevelt and is now for Senator Knox. He is a Phillie, but not a Philistine; a Knox man, but not a knocker.

In the Wrong Bunk.

From the Milwaukee Sentinel.

When the hypercritical New York Mail man—pardon us, "boy"—stirred up The Washington Herald paragrapher, he made the mistake of crawling into the wrong bunk.

Back to Little Old New York.

I have come back,
Back from the Sunny South;
The Sunny South, where the mercury ebbs and flows in its tube,
Ebbs and flows from the index denoting fever's heat,
Down, down to the round o which is the sign that one should shiver.
Yea, shiver, even as one shivers in the frozen North.
Ebbs and flows the mercury every hour in the Sunny South,
Every hour, in alternation, one is stewed and frozen in the Sunny South.
For mine, the equable clime of Lony,
Me for the stable, unchanging clime of Lony,
I roam no more.

W. H. S., in New York Sun.

AT THE HOTELS.

An interesting word on the Presidential situation in Indiana is spoken by Thomas R. Shipp, private secretary to Senator Beveridge, who, fresh from the Hoosier political fields, is in the city for a few days. It is to the effect that rumors which have appeared in the newspapers here and there that Senator Beveridge and his friends might not support Vice President Fairbanks for the Presidency are without foundation.

According to Mr. Shipp, who was formerly a newspaper man, any newspaper printing such rumors is taking the wrong tack, and showing a lack of perspective which will be brought home to them in the future.

"Senator Beveridge has been greatly annoyed," said Mr. Shipp, at the Willard last night, "by rumors that he and his friends in Indiana might not support Mr. Fairbanks for the Presidential nomination. Right now, as the Senator's secretary, I wish to set all such rumors finally at rest. Of course, they are unfounded. Over a year ago, in a speech before the annual Republican love feast in Indianapolis, Senator Beveridge declared himself in no uncertain terms for Mr. Fairbanks' nomination. The Senator and his friends will exert as powerful an influence in support of Mr. Fairbanks in the national convention as any other man or influence in Indiana."

Austin Meade, of Normandy, who, with the Viscomte Desfresnes, Baron d'Hauteserve, is touring America in his giant automobile, strikes a new note in the French religious situation by denying that it is a religious issue, and emphatically insisting that it is political in every aspect. Before entering into a discussion on France, Mr. Meade mentioned that his car outside was an exact counterpart of that used by King Alfonso of Spain, and is the first of twenty thousand that are now being used in France. In talking of the French situation, Mr. Meade said:

"All this trouble between the church and state is not concerning a religious question, a question of atheism against a republican government, but it is a political duel between two political parties. The royalist party is headed by the church, or rather by some churchmen, and the republican party is headed by those who favor a republican form of government, and is supported by many priests and Catholics. I am a Catholic in every sense, and this is my firm conviction. The church party is deeply imbued with royalistic ideas, and desires, above all things, a restored monarchy. Educational institutions have been always in the hands of the religious, who teach, almost openly, that the kingdom of France should be restored. They have had most of the soldiers under their tutelage, and instead of teaching them a solemn duty to the republic and drilling them thoroughly in the elements and principles of the constitution, they instill in them a hatred of the republic and incline them to draw swords against it, to carry out what they have been taught. The republic is merely getting rid of a dangerous enemy, and its methods, drastic as they seem, are necessary. Frankly, the priests are almost entirely on the side of the republic. The real reason of the attitude of the church is the hatred of Merry del Val toward France. He is entirely in the hands of Germany. The French people, Catholic and Protestant, see through this, and realize that he favors any political move that is against the republic of France. To any close student of the question who has lived through it as I have, there is no anti-religious warfare, but a political battle."

That the pneumatic tire on automobiles will soon be as antiquated as the high-wheeled bicycle is the bold statement of Luther L. Lane, of Hillsboro, Tex., who is at the Raleigh. With this change will come the removal of the stage lines in Western Texas and the use of automobiles to carry mails and passengers. Mr. Lane has just come from the Lone Star State for the purpose of securing the mail privilege for the West Texas Automobile Company, and to secure a patent on the new cushion tire with which these mail-carrying autos are to be equipped. He was in the town of Hillsboro, which adjoins Brownsville, during the raid, and he has some lasting impressions of the colored troops, which he consented to speak of.

"When the colored troops came to Texas," he explained, "they felt that the whole Southern people hated them. This feeling had no little to do with their subsequent conduct. While in Hillsboro several noncommissioned negro officers came to my garage to hire an automobile. I refused to let them have one, and they became so impertinent that I was forced to order them from the shop. This conduct was continued. There ensued a wrecking of soda stands where they were not allowed to drink with the whites, and a general swagger which would never characterize white troops. I can readily understand how the Brownsville citizens were disgusted with them. I attribute some of the blame to the officers of the companies, who did not exercise due caution in preventing what every citizen in the vicinity of Brownsville knew would happen before the troops were removed. As to President Roosevelt's action in dismissing the troops, the Texans can hardly say too much in praise of it. He is the most popular Republican President, among the Texas Democrats, that the country has ever known, and I believe many of them would prefer him to some Democratic candidates."

Alexander Schulte, from Milwaukee, who is stopping at the Shoreham, expressed what he claimed to be the general opinion among Westerners when he said that recent stock fluctuations had little effect on people beyond the Alleghenies, with the possible exception of Ohio.

"The Wall street gang," he said, "have come to the conclusion that they hold the pulse of the whole country, but an insight into the conditions in the West would soon disillusionize them. Their political schemes are absolutely not noticed out there, and although they may affect to a great extent the East, neither their panics nor their boasts are taken seriously where I come from. The question as to whether the Harriman-Roosevelt affair has helped or injured the President is answered every night in Milwaukee at the clubs and meetings. Scarcely a man can be found, Democrat or Republican, who does not voice an increased respect for the President."

Error of President's Enemies.

From the Boston Transcript.

It seems to us that the President's opponents have made a mistake in not coming out squarely and saying that they did hope to wrest the control of the party from his hands, by bringing to pass in 1908 the nomination of a man more suited to their tastes. This would be a legitimate endeavor to which no reasonable person could take exception. It would be nothing for any men to apologize for. They might dissent from details which are doubtless exaggerated and fanciful, as was at once recognized, but their desire to shake the control of Mr. Roosevelt should not have been denied.

Tarred with the Same Stick.

From the Richmond News-Leader.

So far as opposing Governor Hughes' reform policy is concerned, the Democrats and the Republicans in the New York senate seem to be tarred with the same stick.